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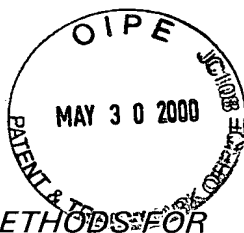
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: LITTLE *et al.*

Serial No.: 08/786,988

Filed: January 23, 1997

For: **SYSTEMS AND METHODS FOR
PREPARING AND ANALYZING
LOW VOLUME ANALYTE ARRAY
ELEMENTS**



I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on this date.

05/23/00
Date

Shelley Callagy
Shelley Callagy

Art Unit: 1743

Examiner: Le, L.

TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Transmitted herewith are a Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement, cited references, and PTO-Form 1449 (1 page), for filing in connection with the above-identified application. Because this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is filed **after receipt of a First Office Action on the merits for the above-captioned application** but before either a Final Office Action or Notice of Allowance in the above-referenced application, a fee for filing this statement is included herewith. However, should said fee be either missing or incorrect, the Commissioner is authorized to charge deposit account No. 50-1213, for the appropriate fee as stated below:

- ☒ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee, including any submitted herewith if the attached check(s) is in the wrong amount or otherwise improper or missing, that may be due in connection with this and the attached papers, or with this application during its entire pendency to or to credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1213. A duplicate of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,
HELLER, EHRMAN, WHITE & McAULIFFE LLP

By: *Stephanie L. Seidman*
Stephanie L. Seidman
Registration No. 33,779

Attorney Docket No.: 24736-2001D
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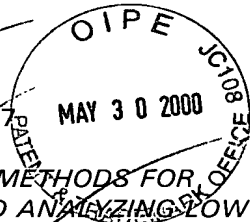
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Shelley Callagy

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT IN
ACCORDANCE WITH 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97-1.98

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Since this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is filed after receipt of a first Office Action on the merits for the above-captioned application, the filing fee of \$240.00 is enclosed. If no proper payment is enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal, or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 50-1213.

In accordance with the duty of disclosure imposed by 37 C.F.R. §1.56 to inform the Patent Office of all references known by Applicant or Applicant's representative that may be material to the examination of the subject application, Applicant's representative hereby provides this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement that is prepared in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§1.97-1.98. Form PTO-1449 (1 page) is provided herewith in connection with the above-captioned application. The cited documents listed on the Form PTO-1449 are supplied herewith in the English language. Hence, in accordance with the requirements of 37 C.F.R. § 1.98, as amended effective March 16, 1992, no further explanation of the listed items is necessary.

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U.S.S.N. 08/786,988
LITTLE, *et al.*
SUPPLEMENTAL IDS

A copy of German Patent No. WO 98/03257 is also supplied herewith. The noted German patent is not included on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 since the publication date, January 29, 1998, is later than the filing date of the instant application. It is brought to the examiners attention, however, that the above noted patent designates the United States and has a priority date that precedes the priority date of the instant application.

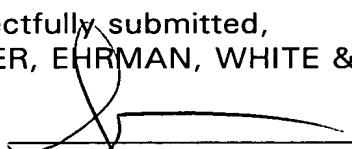
Although these document are made known to the Patent and Trademark Office in compliance with Applicant's duty of disclosure, such disclosure is not to be construed as an admission by Applicant or Applicant's representative that any of the references is effective as prior art against the subject application. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(h), the filing of this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made or that no other material information as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b) exists.

Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner review the foregoing references and that they be made of record in the file history of the above-captioned application.

* * *

Respectfully submitted,
HELLER, EHRMAN, WHITE & McAULIFFE LLP

By:


Stephanie L. Seidman
Registration No. 33,779

Attorney Docket No. 24736-2001D
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